

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

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R 132300Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3092

INFO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMCONGEN BELIZE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GUATEMALA 2647

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PINS, GT, HO, ES

SUBJECT: GOG ACCUSES OPPOSITION FRONT OF FOMENTING RIOTS IN
HONDURAS; SALVADOREAN PRESS "UNCOVERS" SUBVERSIVE, ANTI-GOG PLOT

SUMMARY: IN MAY 10 BULLETIN, GOG ACCUSED OPPOSITION
FRONT LEADERS OF FOMENTING MAY 7 AND 8 RIOTS IN HONDURAS
AS PART OF WIDE-RANGING, SUBVERSIVE PLOT AGAINST
GUATEMALA. BULLETIN CALLED ON GUATEMALANS TO CONDEMN
ANTI-PATRIOTIC ACTIONS AND PROMISED THAT GOG WILL NOT
ALLOW DCG TO CONTINUE "INTERVENING" IN GUATEMALA.
MANUEL COLOM CALLED BULLETIN "RIDICULOUS" WHILE DCG
HAS NOT RESPONDED YET IN PRESS. MLN GAVE ATTENTION TO
QUESTIONABLE REPORT ORIGINALLY APPEARING IN SALVADOREAN
PRESS PURPORTING THAT FAR PLANNED TO ASSASSINATE GENERAL
EFRAIN RIOS MONTT. THESE DEVELOPMENTS POINT TO
GROWING GOG CAMPAIGN WHICH MAY CULMINATE IN MORE
CONCRETE ACTION AGAINST OPPOSITION FRONT AND ITS
LEADERS. END SUMMARY.

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1. ON MAY 10, GOG PUBLISHED BULLETIN ON RECENT

RIOTING IN TEGUCIGALPA IN WHICH IT BLAMED OPPOSITION FRONT LEADERS MANUEL COLOM ARGUETA, RENE DE LEON SCHLOTTER, DANILO BARRILLAS, AND ALBERTO FUENTES MOHR FOR FOMENTING ANTI-GUATEMALA PUBLIC DISTURBANCES IN HONDURAN CAPITAL. BULLETING SINGLED OUT FUENTES MOHR AS ESPECIALY GUILTY FOR STIRRING UP PUBLIC DISORDER IN TEGUCIGALPA WHERE "HE HAS SET UP HIS HEADQUAREDERS." ACCORDING TO BULLETING, HONDURAN DEMONSTRATORS CARRIED PLACARDS "WITH THE FAMOUS SLOGANS OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMONCRATS" COMPOSED BY THE SAME PEOPLE WHO AUTHORED VIOLENCE IN GUATEMALA. GOG CLAIMS TO HAVE INFORMATION THAT EVENTS IN HONDURAS AS WELL AS MAY DAY DISTURBANCES IN GUATEMALA ARE PART OF A SUBVERSIVE PLAN DIRECTED VIA CHRISTIAN DEMOCRACY, "WHOSE LEADERS DO NOT HESITATE IN COMMITTING TREASON AGAINST THE FATHERLAND." ACCORDING TO BULLETIN, THE VISITS OF FUENTES MOHR TO TEGUCIGALPA AND OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS TO EUROPE ARE CARRIED OUT TO RECEIVE ORDERS FROM FOREIGN LEADERS. BULLETIN CLOSES WITH CALL ON GUATEMALANS TO CONDEMN ANTI-PATRIOTIC ACTIONS OF OPPOSITION LEADERS AND PROMISE THAT GOG WILL NOT ALLOW THE "INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT REPRESENTED BY THE DCG TO CONTINUE INTERVENING IN THE INTERNAL POLITICS OF GUATEMALA."

2. GUATEMALA CIT MAYOR MANUEL COLOM ISSUED PUBLIC STATEMENT CALLING GOG BULLETINS "RIDICULOUS" FOR MAKING "IMPROBABLE" ACCUSATIONS ABOUT RESPONSIBILITY FOR EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS INTERNATIONALLY AGAINST GUATEMALA. PRESS ALSO QUOTED FUENTES MOHR'S WIFE, RESIDENT IN TEGUCIGALPA, COUNTERING GOG ACCUSATION AND STATING THAT HER HUSBAND HAS NOT BEEN IN HONDURAS IN OVER A MONTH. ACCORDING TO HER, HE IS PRESENTLY IN EGYPT. PRESS HAS NOT REPORTED ANY PUBLIC STATMENT BY DCG LEADERS ON GOG BULLETIN.

3. ON MAY 9, LOCA PRESS REPRINTED REPORT ORIGINALLY APPEARING IN DIARIO DE HOY OF SAN SALVADOR ON MAY 8. ACCORDING TO THIS REPORT, FAR PLANNED TO ASSASSINATE OPPOSITION FRONT PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE RIOS MONTT, FOMENTED PUBLIC DISORDERS AFTER MARCH 3 ELECTIONS, ASSASSINTED EDMUNDO GUERRA TEILHEIMER, AND CREATED PUBLIC DISORDERS ON MAY 1 BY KILLING WORKER-DEMONSTRATORS. CONFIDENTIAL

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ALL THIS CARRIED OUT, ACCORDING TO REPORT, TO PROVOKE VIOLENT CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT IN GUATEMALA. MLN REPRINTED REPORT IN MAY 13 PAID AD, ADDING COMMENT THAT "COMMUNIST OPPOSITION" WILL STOP AT NOTHING TO GAIN POWER.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH GOG BULLETIN ON EVENTS IN TEGUCIGALPA INDEED APPEARS A LITTLE FARFETCHED, CLOSING REMARKS

THAT "INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT REPRESENTED BY DCG WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO CONTINUE INTERVENING IN INTERNAL POLITICS OF GUATEMALA" HAVE OMINOUS TONE. PRESS REPORT TAKEN FROM DIARIO DE HOY AND REPRINTED BY MLN ALSO HAS UNREAL AIR ABOUT IT. MLN LEADER MARIO SANDOVAL'S CLOSE CONNECTIONS WITH SALVADOR MAKE US SUSPECT HE ARRANGED FOR PUBLICATION OF ORIGINAL ARTICLE.

5. ALL THESE GOG ACCUSATIONS AGAINST OPPOSITIIN FRONT, TAKEN TOGETHER WITH VARIOUS THREATS AGAINST FRONT LEADERS AND BOMBINGS OF DCG HEADQUARTERS AND LEADERS' HOMES ON MAY 9, HAVE SMELL OF A DEVELOPING CAMPAIGN WHICH MAY CULMINATE IN MORE CONCRETE ACTION BY GOG AGAINST OPPOSITIONS FRONT AND ITS LEADERS.
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